



DEMS VS. DEMS

Dem Strategists At Odds With Capitol Hill Dems On Need For Party To Come Up With Social Security Plan

Top Dem Strategists Say Party Leaders Need To Come Up With Plan For Social Security:

Memo From Democrat Strategists Stan Greenberg And James Carville: “To Say There Is No Problem Simply Puts Democrats Out Of The Conversation For The Great Majority Of The Country That Want Political Leaders To Secure This Very Important Government Retirement Program.” (Dan Balz, “Social Security Stance Risky, Democrats Told,” *The Washington Post*, 3/8/05)

- **Greenberg And Carville: “Voters Are Looking For Reform, Change And New Ideas But Democrats Seem Stuck In Concrete.”** (Dan Balz, “Social Security Stance Risky, Democrats Told,” *The Washington Post*, 3/8/05)

Harold Ickes, Clinton White House Deputy Chief Of Staff: “[I]f The Democratic Position Is We Can’t Have Private Accounts But Also Can’t Have An Increase In The Cap [On Earnings Subject To The Payroll Tax] Or The Retirement Age, That May Be A Difficult Position To Sustain.” (Dan Balz, “Social Security Stance Risky, Democrats Told,” *The Washington Post*, 3/8/05)

Marshall Wittmann, Democratic Leadership Council: “At Some Moment Democrats Will Have To Recalibrate Their Strategy.” (Dan Balz, “Social Security Stance Risky, Democrats Told,” *The Washington Post*, 3/8/05)

Democrats On Capitol Hill Disagree:

Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-ND) In Response To Greenberg/Carville Memo: “[L]ook, The Solution Here Has Always Been Coming From The Democrats. It Is The Democrats That Created Social Security And The Republicans Resisted All Along The Way.” (CNN’s “Inside Politics,” 3/8/05)

- **Dorgan: “I Would Suggest To James [Carville], Go Ahead And Run For The Senate And Join Us Here In The Caucus. But We Appreciate Their Advice, But The Fact Is I Don’t Agree With It At All.”** (CNN’s “Inside Politics,” 3/8/05)

Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA) Said No Democrat Plan Until Personal Accounts Are Off Table. ABC’s George Stephanopoulos: “And you’re pretty clear, so no Democratic plan until private accounts are off the table.” Kennedy: “[T]hat would certainly seem to make the sense [sic] to me.” (ABC’s “This Week,” 3/6/05)

When Asked For A Democrat Alternative Plan On Social Security, Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) Claimed: “It’s Not A Question Of Alternative.” Pelosi: “It’s not a question of alternative. The President has described this as a crisis. The President is making a proposal.” (ABC’s “This Week,” 2/6/05)